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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1611

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INFO USCINCEUR

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S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2500

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJ: DPC MEETING MAY 5: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: A. USNATO 2057 (NOTAL)

B. USNATO 2323 (NOTAL)

C. STATE 103344 (NOTAL)

D. USNATO 2480 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING MAY 5, 1975, DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE (DPC) MEETING, PERMREPS ENDORSED DRAFT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT (REFS A AND B) FOR SUBMISSION TO DEFENSE MINISTERS SUBJECT TO US AND UK RESERVATIONS ON WARNING OF WAR SECTION (REF D). DPC FAILED TO RECONCILE CONFLICTING NATIONAL VIEWS ON RESOURCES; SUBMISSION TO DEFENSE MINISTERS WILL CONTAIN UK AND CANADIAN ALTERNATIVES FOR EXISTING DRAFT PARA 38 AND UK ALTERNATIVES FOR DRAFT PARAS 60 AND 73 AS WELL AS NETHERLANDS FOOTNOTE (PARA 40) ON NEED FOR IMPROVED COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS.

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END SUMMARY.

1. DURING MAY 5 DPC DISCUSSION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE (REFS A AND B), ACTING CHAIRMAN PANSA STATED THAT DRC-PRODUCED DRAFT

"WILL CERTAINLY BE THE MOST IMPORTANT DOCUMENT ON DEFENSE MINISTERS' AGENDA," AND ASKED ASYG HUMPHREYS TO SUMMARIZE IT. HUMPHREYS DESCRIBED MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AS "CENTRAL REFERENCE POINT" FOR ALL NATO FORCE PLANNING AND NOTED THAT PRESENT DRAFT WENT FURTHER THAN PREVIOUS EDITIONS BY CONTAINING LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT AND MORE SPECIFIC GUIDANCE TO NMA'S AND NATIONS. HE POINTED TO AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT (RESOURCES AND WARNING TIME) AS ITEMS WHICH ONLY PERMREPS OR MINISTERS COULD RESOLVE, BUT NOTED THAT THESE DISAGREEMENTS FORMED ONLY A SMALL PART OF TOTAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT. ACTING CHAIRMAN PANSA ASKED FOR GENERAL STATEMENTS ON DRAFT DOCUMENT.

2. AMBASSADOR BRUCE (US) ACCEPTED DOCUMENT SUBJECT TO DPC ACCEPTANCE OF CHANGES ON WARNING OF WAR (PARA 3 BELOW), NOTING THAT IT RESPONDS TO MINISTERIAL DIRECTION TO PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE BASIS FOR ALLIANCE DEFENSE PLANNING DURING THE PRESENT PLANNING PERIOD AND BEYOND. ADMIRAL HILL-NORTON (CHAIRMAN, MILITARY COMMITTEE), ADDRESSING ONE "GENERAL POINT-OF-PRINCIPLE," CITED "REAL DANGER" THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF "SUPER-PRIORITIES" IN DRAFT PARAS 53-57 COULD LEAD TO DIMINUTION AND CONSEQUENT NEGLECT OF AD-70 PERIORITIES.

3. WARNING OF WAR. CHAIRMAN NOTED USNATO LETTER OF MAY 3 WHICH STATED US VIEW THAT DRAFT PARAS 22 AND 23 "REFLECT A POTENTIALLY MISLEADING REFORMULATION OF INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS CONTAINED IN MC 161/75(DRAFT) AND PROPOSED TO REPLACE PARAS 22 AND 23 WITH PARA 15, PART I, SECTION 6 OF MC 161/75(DRAFT).

4. ADMIRAL HILL-NORTON TOOK ISSUE WITH IDEA OF DIRECT QUOTATION OF MC-161 BECAUSE OF SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (CTS) AND FACT THAT 1975 EDITION HAD NOT YET BEEN APPROVED. MENZIES (CANADA), ALP (TURKEY) AND BOSS (FRG) SUPPORTED CMC ON CLASSIFIECATION ASPECT OF PROBLEM. HARTOGH (NETHERLANDS), SUPPORTED BY BOSS, RECOMMENDED REMAINING ISSUE TO DRC. AMBASSADOR BRUCE THEN STATED THAT US PROBLEM WITH MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DRAFT WAS THAT IT DOES NOT CONTAIN BALANCE SHOWN IN MC-161 AS A WHOLE, AND SUGGESTED DPC DELETE PARAS 22-23 IN FAVOR OF A BRIEF REFERENCE TO MC-161. HILL-
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NORTON, ALP AND ACTING CHAIRMAN SUPPORTED THIS PROPOSAL. DE FREITAS CRUZ (PORTUGAL) OPPOSED IT, STATING THAT PORTUGUESE NON-ACCESS TO COSMIC TOP SECRET DOCUMENT WOULD CAUSE DIFFICULTY. HE FAVORED LEAVING PARAGRAPHS 22 AND 23 IN THE DRAFT, WITH MORE EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO NEED TO READ THEM IN CONNECTION WITH MC 161 AS A WHOLE. AMBASSADOR BRUCE SAID HE COULD NOT AGREE TO THIS WITHOUT REFERENCE TO WASHINGTON, AND SUGGESTED REMANDING ISSUE TO DRC. ASYG HUMPHREYS STATED HE DID NOT BELIEVE DRC COULD RESOLVE ISSUE. AT REQUEST OF ACTING CHAIRMAN, AMBASSADOR BRUCE THEN UNDERTOOK TO SEEK WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF APPROACH SUGGESTED BY DE FREITAS CRUZ. DPC AGREED THAT IF THIS APPROACH IS NOT SUITABLE TO US, ISSUE WILL GO BACK TO DRC.

5. PECK (UK) TOOK ISSUE WITH FINAL SENTENCE PARA 23 ON GROUNDS THAT BRIEF WARNING PERIOD WOULD PREVAIL FOR ALL CASES EXCEPT NUCLEAR SURPRISE ATTACK. BOSS, ALP AND HILL-NORTON OPPOSED THIS CHANGE, LATTER CITED MC-161 AUTHORITY FOR PRESENT LANGUAGE. PECK RESERVED POINT FOR 24HOURS, WITH PROVISIO THAT IF WARNING OF WAR SECTION IS REMANDED TO DRC, UK WILL RAISE IT AGAIN.

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6. RESOURCES (PARAS 36-39). REGARDING PARA 36, CATALANO (ITALY) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF FORCE CAPABILITIES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN RETAINING PRESENT LEVELS OF PERSONNEL AND THAT ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS MAY REQUIRE DECREASED FORCE LEVELS IN EXCHANGE FOR QUALITATIVE FORCE IMPROVEMENTS. CATALANO SAID HIS AUTHORITIES ALSO APPRECIATE "NATO PRINCIPLE" THAT NATIONS SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT MAKE FORCE LEVEL REDUCTIONS OUTSIDE MBFR CONTEXT. HE SAID HIS AUTHORITIES CAN THEREFORE ACCEPT EXISTING DRAFT PARA 36 PROVIDING THIS ACCEPTANCE DOES NOT REPEAT NOT PREJUDICE OUTCOME OF ONGOING ITALIAN RESTRUCTURING DELIBERATIONS. CATALANO SAID ITALY WILL FORMALLY CONSULT ABOUT RESTRUCTURING PROGRAM WHEN APPROPRIATE.

7. MENZIES SAID EXISTING PARA 38 FAILED TO CALL FOR IMPROVED COOPERATIVE MEASURES AMONG NATIONAL FORCES AND THEREFORE CONFLICTED WITH PARA 7 IN LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT. HE CIRCULATED NEW PARAS 38, WHICH SUBSTITUTED "UP TO FIVE PERCENT PER YEAR" FOR "IN THE ORDER OF THREE PERCENT TO FIVE PERCENT PER YEAR" IN
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PREVIOUS CANADIAN PROPOSAL (REF B, APPENDIX A), AND 38 BIS, WHICH CONTAINED MINOR REVISION FROM EARLIER CANADIAN PROPOSAL (REF B, APPENDIX A). BRUCE SAID US COULD ACCEPT LATEST CANADIAN PROPOSAL IF BOTH CANADIAN PARAS 38 AND 38 BIS WERE SUBSTITUTED FOR DRAFT PARA 38; SVART (DENMARK) EXPRESSED SIMILAR SUPPORT, THOUGH HE REQUESTED ADDITIONAL TIME TO CONSIDER REVISIONS IN LATEST CANADIAN PARA 38 BIS. PECK AGREED TO CANADIAN PROPOSAL IF DPC DELETED "UP TO FIVE PERCENT PER YEAR" WITH CLAUSE CALLING FOR "A MODEST REAL INCREASE" IN NATIONAL DEFENSE BUDGETS. HE ALSO ASKED DPC TO DELETE SPECIFIC PERCENTAGES IN PARAS 60 AND 73. ADMIRAL HILL-NORTON SUPPORTED UK REQUEST, SAYING "A MODEST REAL INCREASE" PROVIDED MORE SPECIFIC DATA TO MILITARY AUTHORITIES THAN "UP TO FIVE PERCENT PER YEAR." ASYG HUMPHREYS EXPLAINED THAT DRAFT PARA 73 ASKED NATIONS TO PROVIDE MILITARY AUTHORITIES WITH SPECIFIC RESOURCE PLANNING FACTORS, AND THAT INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS) WOULD SOON CIRCULATE QUESTIONNAIRE TO THAT EFFECT. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) URGED DPC TO RETAIN PERCENTAGES, SAYING THE FIVE PERCENT FIGURE WOULD HELP THOSE WHO WILL ADVOCATE CONTINUING REAL INCREASES IN BELGIAN DEFENSE SPENDING. HE ASKED DPC TO REMOVE THAT PORTION OF FIRST SENTENCE IN CANADIAN-PROPOSED PARA 38 WHICH CALLED FOR RATIONALIZATION, BECAUSE IT PROVIDED AN "ESCAPE CLAUSE" FROM INCREASES IN NATIONAL DEFENSE SPENDING. BOSS SAID HE HAD "STRICT INSTRUCTIONS" TO RETAIN EXISTING DRAFT PARA 38, BUT COULD ACCEPT DELETION OF SPECIFIC CALL FOR FIVE PERCENT ANNUAL DEFENSE SPENDING INCREASE. WHEN MENZIES AND PECK CITED SIMILARLY STRICT INSTRUCTIONS, DPC AGREED TO INCLUDE UK RESERVATIONS ON SPECIFIC PERCENTAGES (PARAS 38, 60, AND 73), CANADIAN-PROPOSED PARAS 38 AND 38 BIS, AND EXISTING DRAFT PARA 38 IN FINAL VERSION FOR DISCUSSION BY DEFENSE MINISTERS. PECK SAID HE WOULD ASK LONDON IF HE COULD DROP DPC RESERVATIONS. ACCEPTED FRG REQUEST TO ADD "AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 38" TO END OF FIRST CLAUSE IN PARA 73.

8. ALLIANCE COOPERATION (PARA 40). CARSTEN (NETHERLANDS) GAVE LENGTHY JUSTIFICATION FOR ADDITIONAL SENTENCE ON COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS IN PARA 40 (REF B, FOOTNOTE), QUOTING SIMILAR SENTIMENT EXPRESSED IN DUTCH WHITE PAPER AND FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON NEED FOR RATIONALIZATION BY DEFENSE MINISTER VREDELING DURING DECEMBER 1974 MINISTERIAL MEETING: BEGIN QUOTE: I WISH TO UNDERLINE THAT WE DO NOT WANT TO MAKE USE OF THIS EXERCISE AS A LEVER FOR A DECREASE IN OUR DEFENSE OUTLAYS BUT RATHER AS A TOOL TO ENSURE THAT WE
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CAN CONTINUE TO ASSUME AGREED TASKS IN THE PERIOD AFTER 1978. END QUOTE. DE STAERCKE SAID NETHERLANDS PROPOSAL COULD, IF INCORPORATED IN GUIDANCE PARA 40, SERVE AS RATIONALE FOR DECREASED BELGIAN DEFENSE SPENDING. SVART SAID DENMARK WOULD ACCEPT PROPOSAL AS A NETHERLANDS FOOTNOTE, BUT NOT AS AN ADDITION TO PARA 40. DPC RETAINED NETHERLANDS PROPOSAL AS A FOOTNOTE; DE

STAERCKE SAID IT WAS A GOOD TOPIC FOR DEFENSE MINISTERS TO DISCUSS.
IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT QUERY FROM ACTING CHAIRMAN PANSAN, NO PERM
REP SUPPORTED INCLUSION OF NETHERLANDS PROPOSAL IN PARA 40.

9. DPC ACCEPTED FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL CHANGES PROPOSED BY ADMIRAL
HILL-NORTON:

A. MARITIME FORCES (PARA 34C): SUBSTITUTE "MARITIME" FOR
"NUCLEAR" IN PENULTIMATE SENTENCE.

B. LOGISTIC SUPPORT (PARA 49): ADD "ADEQUATE" BEFORE
"PROVISION OF LOGISTIC SUPPORT..."

C. GUIDANCE FOR NATIONS (PARA 67): REVISE FINAL CLAUSE OF
SENTENCE TO READ, "...FORCES SHOULD BE STRUCTURED TO ACHIEVE THE
OPTIMUM COMBAT/SUPPORT RATIO AND TO EXPLOIT THE POSSIBILITIES OF
RATIONALIZATION AND FLEXIBILITY, ON A REGIONAL, LOCAL OR ALLIANCE-
WIDE BASIS."

D. GUIDANCE FOR NATIONS (PARA 71): ADD "ON THE LINES SET OUT
IN PARA 46" TO LAST SENTENCE. BRUCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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